

Message Text

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S/S MR. ORTIZ

S - MR. COVEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036348

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, AR, UK, FA

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE-UK TALKS ON FALKLANDS (MALVINAS)

1. AT ARGENTINE EMBASSY LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 12 ARGENTINE FONMIN QUIJANO TOLD THE SECRETARY THAT HE HAD MET FOR THREE HOURS IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY WITH BRITISH FONOFF PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY TED ROWLANDS. QUIJANO SAID MEETING HAD BEEN VERY GOOD EVEN THOUGH NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AND THAT HE WILL SEE ROWLANDS AGAIN TONIGHT IN NEW YORK. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING, QUIJANO SAID, IS THAT THE TWO PARTIES ARE NOW TALKING TO EACH OTHER. WHEN THE SECRETARY ASKED HIM WHAT HE THOUGHT THE OUTCOME SHOULD BE, QUIJANO REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT LONG-TERM NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT GRADUALLY LEAD TO AGREEMENT GIVING ARGENTINA SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS. HE SAID EVEN THOUGH INHABITANTS ARE BRITISH SUBJECTS THEY ARE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT UPON ARGENTINA AND THAT THE ISLANDS HAVE NO ECONOMIC FUTURE APART FROM ARGENTINA. KISSINGER

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